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- (b) an electrode adjacent said display element, said electrode comprising a protective layer adapted to prevent mechanical or electrochemical damage to said display element.
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6. (Amended) The display of claim 1 wherein said electrode is transparent and the protective layer is disposed upon said transparent electrode, said protective layer being capable of protecting said transparent electrode from degradation under the application of an electrical potential.
7. (Amended) The display of claim 6 wherein said electrode is transparent and comprises one or more oxides selected from the group consisting of indium oxide, tin oxide and indium tin oxide.
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21. (Amended) An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

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- (a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface, said electrophoretic display element comprising:
- (i) a capsule;
  - (ii) a dispersing fluid having a first optical property disposed within said capsule; and
  - (iii) at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle disposed within said capsule, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle having a second optical property different from said first optical property, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle adapted to change position within said capsule under the influence of an applied electric field, thereby changing the optical properties of said display element; and
- (b) a protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and
- (c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element, wherein application of an electrostatic voltage of less than 1000 volts across the display creates an electrostatic voltage of at least 5 volts across the electrophoretic element.

22. (Amended) An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

(a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface, said electrophoretic display element comprising:

- (i) a capsule;
- (ii) a dispersing fluid having a first optical property disposed within said capsule; and
- (iii) at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle disposed within said capsule, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle having a second optical property different from said first optical property, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle adapted to change position within said capsule under the influence of an applied electric field, thereby changing the optical properties of said display element; and

(b) a protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and

(c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element,

wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said capsule comprises a layer having a resistivity less than  $10^{12}$  ohm-centimeters and said electrophoretic element comprises a material having a resistivity greater than  $10^{12}$  ohm-centimeters.

23. (Amended) An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

(a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface, said electrophoretic display element comprising:

- (i) a capsule;
- (ii) a dispersing fluid having a first optical property disposed within said capsule; and
- (iii) at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle disposed within said capsule, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle having a second optical property different from said first optical property, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle adapted to change position

within said capsule under the influence of an applied electric field, thereby changing the optical properties of said display element; and

(b) a protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and

(c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element,

wherein said protective layer comprises a material having a resistivity greater than a resistivity of said electrophoretic element and a thickness that is not more than 20% of the thickness of a layer of said electrophoretic elements, whereby a resistance of said protective layer is approximately 20% of a resistance of said electrophoretic element.

24. (Amended) An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

(a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface;

(b) a flexible protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and

(c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element,

wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element comprises a layer of polymeric material.

26. (Amended) An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

(a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface;

(b) a flexible protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and

(c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element.

wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element comprises a layer of an insulating material having a plurality of conductive structures extending therethrough.

27. (Amended) An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

(a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface;

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and
- (b) a flexible protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and
  - (c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element, wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element comprises a first region having a first resistivity and a second region having a second resistivity.
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32. (Amended) An electrostatically addressable display, comprising:

- (a) an electrophoretic display element having a first surface and a second surface;
  - (b) a flexible protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element, said protective layer capable of transmitting charge; and
  - (c) an electrode disposed adjacent said second surface of said display element, wherein said protective layer disposed adjacent said first surface of said display element comprises a first region having a first resistivity and a plurality of regions having a second resistivity.
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37. (Amended) A method for addressing an electrostatically addressable display element, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing an electrophoretic element comprising:
  - (i) a capsule;
  - (ii) a dispersing fluid having a first optical property disposed within said capsule; and
  - (iii) at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle disposed within said capsule, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle having a second optical property different from said first optical property, said at least one electrophoretically-mobile particle adapted to change position within said capsule under the influence of an applied electric field, thereby changing the optical properties of said display element;
- (b) providing a protective layer disposed adjacent said capsule, said protective layer adapted to transmit charge;
- (c) providing a first electrode disposed adjacent said capsule;